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DRAKE'S REPS DENY HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE GASH ON CHRIS BROWN'S FACE AFTER A FIGHT IN A NEW YORK CLUB PAGE 18

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Tell the world why you love Saskatchewan

Today. Write a letter, post a photo or make a video to capture the beauty of our province

JANE CAULFIELD
jane.caulfield@metronews.ca

Organizers of the #WishYouWereHere project are sending a challenge to every single person in the province: Tell the world why you love Saskatchewan.

The idea is that Friday, you are to take images or video or write an email or a letter that tells people beyond our borders that Saskatchewan is awesome and that you wish they were here. Then broadcast those images and videos to all of your friends and followers using social media, if you can.

"It can be anything that is just an expression of anything to anyone saying you wish they were here. It can even be low-tech — if you want to write a letter and put a stamp on it, you can," said challenge organizer Mike Klein.

Klein said the idea came to him after travelling the province in January for work.

"I saw just how much everyone loves Saskatchewan," said Klein. "I wanted to mobilize that affinity."

Klein, along with colleague Natasha Katchuk, brainstormed the idea for the project on their own — this one-day challenge is separate from Tourism Saskatchewan and the only goal is for people to have fun.

"It's kind of like an online equivalent of a flash mob," said Klein. "Even if we get a couple hundred tweets, it will be fun for everyone involved."

Katchuk added: "We've already had a lot of interest on Twitter; it's been phenomenal."

The project's website points out that often when someone says they are from Saskatchewan, the response they get is "Saskatchewhat?" Katchuk said she really hopes this will help people learn about the province, its beauty and its fantastic opportunities.

"We are no longer a have-not province," Katchuk said. "I want everyone to talk about Saskatchewan. Do something — a picture, a video — that you feel shows how awesome this province is and share it with someone else."

If you would like to participate in the one-day challenge, you can sign up online at wewishyouwerehere.ca, or you can simply tweet using the #WishYouWereHere and #Saskatchewan hashtags.

Follow Jane Caulfield on Twitter @janecaulfield

Join the conversation

People have already been posting their love letters on the project's website via Facebook:

- **Lois Headrick Hrynor.** Saskatchewan is the forgotten "jewel" of Canada..... such a great place to live, work and play.....
- **Annelise Larson.** I moved back to Sask almost 2 years ago. Love being back under those beautiful prairie skies!

Spain's Torres STRIKES TWICE

Spain's Fernando Torres celebrates after scoring one of two goals during the Euro 2012 soccer championship against Ireland in Gdansk, Poland, on Thursday. Story, page 21.

ALVARO BARRIENTOS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sleepless over budget bill

Weary MPs push through marathon voting session on 871 opposition motions PAGE 5

'Hockey mom' sent to jail

Woman gets two years for sexual interference with three 14-year-old boys PAGE 3

Burgers on the grill

Show dad your skills PAGE 19

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Woman gets two years in jail for sex with teen boys

Sentencing. 'Hockey mom' plied kids with alcohol at parties held at her home, court was told

MORGAN MODJESKI
morgan.modjeski@metronews.ca

Kelley Minogue, a woman who pleaded guilty to three counts of sexual interference, was sentenced to two years in a federal jail Thursday afternoon after a provincial judge heard details of how Minogue had sexual relations with three 14-year-old boys in 2010.

The court heard that Minogue had engaged in sexual activity with all of the boys and was aware of their age.

Crown prosecutors said one of the boys had reported in a statement that Minogue acknowledged she could get in trouble for having sex with the victims.

Senior Crown prosecutor Sheryl Fillo told the court that Minogue would throw parties at her house where she would buy booze for a number of minors. It was at these parties where she had sexual relations with the victims, court was told.

Fillo said these parties happened on a number of occasions and sometimes Minogue would make multiple trips to buy alcohol and then bring the alcohol back to her home.

She explained, "All of these young men consumed alcohol at her home while she would have one or two drinks."

One of the victim's parents was on hand to read a victim-impact statement explaining how the incident had affected her child.

The boy's mother told the court on Thursday that her son was a "young kid entering puberty," and she was "in shock" when she heard what Minogue had done, referring to her as a "hockey mom."

"I was sickened by what Kelley had done," she told a provincial judge.

The victim's mother added that she felt Minogue had preyed on her son, saying something that was "supposed to occur naturally," happened through alcohol and "coercion."

Minogue "left scars that won't go away," she said.

The boy's father also spoke at the sentencing, saying, "You changed these boys, and not in a good way."

Before the sentencing, Minogue apologized to the family and victims for her actions, calling them "unacceptable" and "inexcusable."

Minogue's defence attorney, Mark Brayford, said he thought the sentence was fair.

"I felt the sentence was right in the range of what was legally appropriate," said Brayford.

"One always can hope for a sentence that is more moderate, but on the other hand, we certainly want the judge to give a sentence that is — as the judge sees it — in the centre of the range so it won't get appealed."

Minogue is expected to serve her sentence at the Edmonton Institution For Women.

Senior Crown prosecutor Sheryl Fillo speaks with the media outside Saskatoon's courthouse on Thursday afternoon. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

Stabbing death

Man arrested in fourth homicide of the year

Saskatoon police have made an arrest in the city's fourth homicide of the year.

A 46-year-old Saskatoon man is being charged with second-degree murder in relation to the death of 29-year-old Nicholas Peter Smith.

On June 8 at approximately 3:07 a.m., police responded to a call of an injured person at an apartment in the 800 block of Broadway.

Upon arrival, police and ambulance personnel found Smith, who was unresponsive. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

An autopsy was performed on Monday, at which time it was determined the victim died as a result of a stab wound.

The accused was arrested without incident on Wednesday at approximately 4:15 p.m. in the 300 block of 2nd Avenue South.

The accused will appear in court on Friday to answer to the charge.

METRO

Premier touts new scholarship program

Premier Brad Wall speaks about the new SAS program during a speech at Mount Royal Collegiate in Saskatoon on Thursday. DORIAN GEIGER/METRO

Premier Brad Wall visited Saskatoon's Mount Royal Collegiate on Thursday to discuss the new Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship (SAS) program, which was first announced in May.

The SAS scholarship program will curb rising tuition costs for Grade 12 graduates who enrol at a Saskatchewan post-secondary institution with up to $500 annually up to a maximum of $2,000 over 10 years.

The SAS applies to a multitude of post-secondary institutions in the province.

The premier used his education platform to encourage students to stay in the province.

"For you to stay here, we know you need a job and need an opportunity when you graduate," said Wall.

Wall then indicated that Saskatoon will soon see a sizable influx of work.

"Ten thousand jobs are expected to be created in Saskatoon this year," said Wall. "That's a new record. And over the next 10 to 15 years, Saskatchewan will need between 75,000 and 90,000 skilled workers to meet the demands of the labour market."

DORIAN GEIGER/METRO

School days

In his speech to a cafeteria full of students and teachers, Premier Brad Wall joked about his senior high school year.

- "In a few weeks, the new journey begins for all of you. You're probably not going to forget some of the things that happen over the next two weeks," he said. "We graduated a long, long time ago — in the 1930s or something — and I still remember that."

1 NEWS

On the web

Far from the flying felines

Cat haters, rejoice! The Canadian Transportation Agency has ordered Air Canada, Air Canada Jazz and WestJet Airlines to do more to keep passengers with cat (but not dog) allergies far from travelling felines. Go to metronews.ca to find out why fur won't be flying anymore.

On the web

Cold virus a potential cancer cure?

Researchers have shown that a cold virus known to destroy cancer cells can be delivered to a tumour through the bloodstream without falling prey to killer antibodies on the way. Go online to read the full story.

Mobile news

When Nik Wallenda steps out onto a cable Friday, he will carry with him the hopes (and prayers) of daredevil enthusiasts from around the world. Scan the code to watch Wallenda's walk across Niagara Falls live on Friday evening.

Pride heads into weekend festivities

Full swing. Saskatoon Pride Festival is hosting parties all weekend long, and here are some you may want to check out

The Carnivale 2012 Pride Dance
Presented by the Saskatoon Diversity Network, the Carnivale dance is unfolding at the Odeon Events Centre on Friday from 9 p.m. until 2 a.m. The event has been dubbed the "largest queer party of the year." There will be scandalous entertainment and the event is hosted by local drag icon Simone DuVall. DJ MISS M will headline the Carnivale, which also features a live top-40 dance video show.

Pussycat Doll
302 Lounge and Discotheque will be hosting former Pussycat Dolls singer Jessica Sutta for a vocal performance on Friday. Sutta left the Pussycat Dolls and embarked on her solo career in 2010. An outspoken gay activist, Sutta has headlined pride festivals in San Francisco, Miami, West Hollywood and Vancouver.

Pure Pride
302 will also host Pure Pride on Saturday, which will feature a variety of entertainment and give patrons the chance to meet various iconic North American pornographic actors.

Not Your Average House Party
Diva's is hosting a Pride Festival kickoff on Friday with an event called Not Your Average House Party from 8 p.m. to 3 a.m. Diva's resident turntablist, Vancouver DJ Spencer, will be on the turntables spinning house, '80s and disco tunes.

Studio 54
On Saturday, Diva's will unleash its Studio 54 Party with a live music and a drag show.

Community fair
A community fair in Victoria Park will ramp up the Pride Festival's vibrancy this weekend. Live music and a main stage, a pride rally, as well as beer gardens and various pride booths and kiosks will be the main focuses of the community fair. It runs from 12 to 7 p.m.

Parade
The Pride Festival's parade, which aims to celebrate diversity in Saskatchewan, will get underway at 1 p.m. on Saturday. Queer people and straight people alike, along with their friends and family, are encouraged to attend.

Last year's success
2011's parade was the largest pride parade in the province's history with upwards of 2,500 participants. Pride Festival organizers anticipate breaking last year's record on Saturday. The parade will take place between Avenue C and Ave. A.

METRO

The 2012 Saskatoon Pride Festival is in full swing this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

Saskatchewan Archaeological Society digs deep into history

Saskatchewan Archaeological Society volunteers excavate a chimney mound/hearth at South Branch House near St. Louis during one of last year's field schools. South Branch House is a Hudson's Bay Trading Co. site estimated to be about 225 years old. KARMEN VANDERZWAN/CONTRIBUTED

Buried beneath your feet under city streets and farmers' fields is nearly 10,000 years of human history in Saskatchewan. It is this fact that the Saskatchewan Archaeological Society (SAS) is celebrating during the month of June.

Kicking off the archaeology season with public lectures being hosted by chapters of the SAS throughout the province, the SAS is working towards increasing public awareness about archaeology and archaeological projects in Saskatchewan.

"Archaeology is very much a public matter," said SAS executive director Talina Cyr-Steenkamp. "People can find archaeological items in their own backyard and we want people to know how to preserve and protect our heritage. After all, heritage is not a renewable resource."

Cyr-Steenkamp says that as Saskatchewan grows and there are more developments cropping up, there is no shortage of work for archaeologists who can ensure that no artifacts and historical items are lost or damaged.

The SAS will be running three field schools in June and July that are open to the public. Anyone of any age or skill level is invited to participate.

Field schools

- Two of the field schools are excavation sites, and will allow participants to experience the work that is involved in conducting an archeological dig.
- Duties include photographing artifacts and cleaning and cataloguing them once they have been exhumed.

"We train volunteers on site so they don't have to have previous experience," said Cyr-Steenkamp. "Every year we get newcomers as well as regulars. It's really great to get a wide variety of people helping out and sharing knowledge."

The third field school starts Friday and is a chance for participants to walk the landscapes around Cabri Lake, surveying for above-ground archaeological finds. Cry-Steenkamp says that there is a lot of Saskatchewan's physical heritage found above ground, if you know what you are looking for.

More information is available through the SAS website at saskarchsoc.ca.

JANE CAULFIELD/METRO

Statistics

Crime on the rise in 2012: Police

Compared to 2011 numbers, crime is on the rise in Saskatoon and most of it is happening in the central part of the city.

According to the Saskatoon Police Service's month-end reports from April 2012, over 609 crimes happened in the central part of the city compared to 316 in the east and 315 in the northwest.

Alyson Edwards, director of public affairs with the Saskatoon Police Service, said the reason why crime is concentrated in the central part of the city is because of social issues in the downtown core. "We have a higher population of marginalized people" in the central division, said Edwards. "There are all kinds of social conditions in that area that add up to a higher possibility of crime."

The city also saw an increase in specific crimes from 2011 to 2012, such as kidnapping and hostage taking, which rose 66.67 per cent in 2012.

MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

Break-and-enters

20%

The city saw an increase of about 20 per cent in the number of residence break-and-enters.

Legal repercussions

Social media can impact trials: Prof

The dean of law at the University of Saskatchewan says using social media can have negative repercussions in the courtroom.

Sanjeev Anand says there has been an increase in the number of people using Facebook to look for missing family members or to discuss recent murder cases.

He says depending on the information discussed, online musings and conversations could jeopardize a trial and even land someone in jail.

While it is not necessarily illegal to post the information, Anand uses the example of a Crown witness stating inflammatory information while blogging about an upcoming trial.

He says defence lawyers may be able to use those statements posted on the Internet to attack the person's credibility during trial.

There are also bans preventing media and the public from publishing details heard during bail and preliminary hearings in order to ensure the accused has a fair trial.

Even if it isn't outlined during proceedings or in the Criminal Code, Anand said a publication ban should automatically extend to social media.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MPs lose sleep over budget bill

Prime Minister Stephen Harper

NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair

Interim Liberal Leader Bob Rae

Green party Leader Elizabeth May

Conservative MP Jim Flaherty

Liberal MP Justin Trudeau

Dishevelled MPs appear in the House of Commons around the halfway point of a 24-hour voting spree on proposed amendments to the omnibus bill. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Parliament Hill.
Flaherty accuses NDP of stalling as opposition gets comfortable for marathon voting session

The two sleep-deprived sides of the House of Commons kept vigilant watch on each other Thursday as bleary-eyed MPs stood up and sat down over and over again, their 24-hour marathon voting session pushing past the halfway mark.

"I've got to get myself comfy — off come the shoes," said New Democrat MP Glenn Thibeault, describing one of the many ways MPs sought comfort through the 12th hour of voting on more than 800 amendments to Bill C-38.

Members of Parliament bobbed from their seats through the night and into the afternoon as they voted on 871 opposition motions that are designed to thwart, or at least publicize, the Harper government's sprawling omnibus budget-implementation bill.

Liberal House leader Marc Garneau's best guess for when the voting would finally be over? Likely 1 a.m. Friday morning, he said — 24 hours after it began.

The long haul seemed to have taken a toll on Finance Minister Jim Flaherty. He was waspish in his comments about the opposition's efforts to delay passage of his budget bill.

"This is not a time for gamesmanship," Flaherty said.

"This is a serious time in which we need to protect Canada and advance our economic agenda ... and we'll do whatever we have to do today and tonight and in the early hours of tomorrow morning to get the job done."

NDP House leader Nathan Cullen had tried to win unanimous consent to hold question period at the regular time, only to be shouted down from the government benches.

Flaherty was scornful of Cullen's gambit, saying the NDP wasted several hours before voting even began and were deliberately taking their time getting to their feet during each individual vote.

Cullen, meanwhile, wasn't surprised his motion for question period was shouted down.

"The government doesn't really like question period all that much," he said. "Something about being held to account."

The legislation contains a bewildering maze of changes to dozens of statutes. Critics say such omnibus bills amount to a massive abuse of Parliament — an argument a young Stephen Harper once made with some conviction as a Reform MP. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Twitter

What was on the minds of some of the MPs during the marathon voting session, shared via Twitter:

@MarcGarneau
The smell of bacon is wafting into the House of Commons. I remain focused like a laser #BudgetFAIL #C38 #LPC

@MeganLeslieMP
Slipped out a few votes ago to brush my teeth. I'm a new woman! #omnibudget, watch out.

@KyleSeeback
Just got permission from the whip for an unplanned bathroom break. Let the good times roll!

@ElizabethMay
So cool to have @Sarah Harmer in the gallery to encourage the fight against #C38 #cdnpoli

@nathancullen
Min of Immigration just dumped water on the laptop of the Min of Immigration. Either tense or clumsy.

I love you Dad
THE SALVATION ARMY
THRIFT STORE
THOUSANDS OF NEW ITEMS DAILY
THRIFTSTORE.CA
THIS FATHER'S DAY GIVE HIM A GIFT THAT'S UNIQUE

Secret files kept by Boy Scouts ordered released

Scouts tried to keep them private. Court in the U.S. says use of the files in a molestation suit makes them part of the public record

A court in the U.S. has approved the release of so-called "perversion files" compiled by the Boy Scouts of America on suspected child molesters within the organization over two decades.

This will give the public its first chance to review the files on 1,200 people.

The files gathered from 1965 to 1985 came to light when they were used as evidence in a landmark Oregon ruling in 2010 that the Scouts had failed to protect a plaintiff who had been molested by an assistant scoutmaster in the early 1980s.

The Scouts were ordered to pay the man $18.5 million US.

The case drew attention to the organization's efforts to keep child molesters out of its leadership ranks.

In recent years, the Boy Scouts have faced numerous lawsuits from men who say they were molested as children by scout leaders.

The Boy Scouts fought to keep the files sealed, arguing that opening them could unfairly affect those who were suspected but never convicted of abuse.

Media organizations challenged the Scouts' efforts to keep the files under seal, arguing that their introduction by attorneys in the suit makes them public record. A judge agreed.

The files are part of a larger trove of documents the Boy Scouts began compiling several decades ago on people flagged as possible molesters. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Perversion files'

20K

The 20,000-page files contain accusations against scout leaders that ranged from child abuse to lesser offences.

An American court has approved the release of 20,000 pages of files compiled by the Boy Scouts of America over 20 years. DON RYAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ottawa. Mom of suspected pimp fears daughter's death

JESSICA SMITH
Metro in Ottawa

The mother of a 17-year-old pimping suspect Ottawa police are searching for says she is also trying to find her daughter, who she fears has been killed.

"Either she went into hiding or she has been killed. That is what I want to know. Where is my daughter? Are the police of Ottawa doing their job?" the woman said when reached by phone Thursday.

Police allege the woman's daughter and two 15-year-olds forced three teen girls into prostitution. The 15-year-olds are in custody facing serious charges including assault and human trafficking.

Police have not yet released the 17-year-old's name to the public, though under the Youth Criminal Justice Act they may apply for permission to temporarily release her name in order to find her.

"If the police were doing their job they would have found where my daughter is," the woman said. "She is just a child.

"What does she eat? Where does she sleep?" she asked. "(Name withheld) is a little girl. I lost my little girl. She is a nice girl. She is not mentally ill. She is not a crackhead."

The woman said her daughter "hasn't done anything" but is being "blamed" by the police.

The woman, who cannot be named, suggested Quebec police are also searching for her daughter and said they are doing a better job.

"F— you for the police. F— you for the journalist," she said.

Raids

Suspected British pedophiles nabbed

British police raided homes and properties of dozens of suspected pedophiles — including a retired teacher and a scout leader. Cops executed 141 warrants for offences relating to the possession and distribution of indecent images of children. Also among those arrested were a referee, a pathologist and a firefighter. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Killer denies victim's right to compensation

Convicted murderer Russell Williams is denying that a woman he tied up and sexually assaulted is entitled to compensation from him for pain and suffering.

In a statement of defence to a lawsuit launched by Laurie Massicotte in Belleville, Ont., Williams says she will have to prove her claims in court.

And he wants her to pay for his legal bills to fight her lawsuit.

Massicotte, who has chosen to reveal her identity and speak publicly about her ordeal, filed a nearly $7-million lawsuit in September against Williams.

The attack left her fearful, humiliated, depressed, suicidal, unable to function in society and she will require extensive therapy, Massicotte said in her statement of claim.

Williams broke into her house on Sept. 29, 2009, hit her over the head, tied her up, sexually assaulted her and took pornographic pictures, according to Massicotte.

The former air force colonel pleaded guilty to the attack on Massicotte, admitting to those facts in court in October 2010. For the purposes of the lawsuit Williams' statement of defence challenges Massicotte to a burden of "strict proof" of her claims about the attack and resulting anguish.

Russell Williams
NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Williams was convicted of first-degree murder in the sex slayings of Cpl. Marie-France Comeau, 37, of Brighton, Ont., and Jessica Lloyd, 27, of Belleville.

The former commander of Canada's largest military airfield, in Trenton, Ont., also pleaded guilty to 82 fetish break-and-enters and thefts as well as two sexual assaults, including Massicotte's.

Massicotte's lawsuit also names the province, alleging the provincial police failed to warn her about previous sexual assaults and a string of fetish break-ins in the community.

The province recently filed its statement of defence, denying it had a duty to warn Massicotte in the circumstances of the case.

"Ontario recognizes the extremely distressing experience that Ms. Massicotte endured as one of Williams' victims," the province says in the statement of defence.

"Ontario is committed to the prevention of crime and to the apprehension and prosecution of the perpetrators of crime."

Like Williams, the province is asking that the lawsuit against it be dismissed with costs, which would leave Massicotte on the hook for the defendants' legal bills.

Massicotte is also alleging that Williams secretly and fraudulently transferred assets to his wife in March 2010 after he was criminally charged, including their house in Ottawa.

The allegations in the lawsuit have not been proven in court. THE CANADIAN PRESS

OFFICE MANAGER

Reporting to the Sales/General Manager, Metro Saskatoon, the right candidate will carry out a range of administrative and operational tasks related to the daily operations of the business in the Metro Saskatoon operation. As well as provide operational and executive support to the Sales/General Manager, Metro Saskatoon and any additional administrative support as directed.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Responsible for all administrative projects as assigned
- Responsible for the general daily office operations
- Assist in maintenance and control of the office budget
- Oversee the monthly purchases of office supplies and send required accruals to Metro English Canada
- Recommend and manage office furniture purchases, office supply purchases and all maintenance issues/requests
- General reception duties and Customer service requests
- Oversee couriers and mail; both incoming and outgoing
- Responsible for prompt office maintenance and repair work
- Supervise the implementation of new office systems from various shared service departments
- Review and update health and safety policies; coordinate with JHSC
- Responsible for maintaining accurate staff lists and directories
- Answering telephones, call screening and forwarding
- Deal with complex queries and complaints, by email, phone and in person
- Greet visitors and guests

REQUIREMENTS OF THE POSITION:

- 2-3 years of demonstrated success in a similar role
- Great organizational and time management skills
- Outstanding communication skills
- Intermediate knowledge of Microsoft Office - Word, Excel & Outlook
- Attention to details and thoroughness in the execution of tasks
- Must be a team player with a great, and we mean great, sense of humor

IInterested individuals who possess the skills described above are requested to submit their resume and cover letter via email to hr@metronews.ca no later than June 30, 2012. PLEASE QUOTE: "Office Manager - Saskatoon" in the subject line. All submissions will be treated as confidential.

metro

In this 2003 photo, Russian President Vladimir Putin speaks with Lyudmila Narusova, right, widow of former St. Petersburg cemetery. Ksenia has recently joined the ranks of the opposition activists.

Putin admin targets It Girl-turned-activist

Dramatic shift. Socialite Ksenia Sobchak was initially shunned by activists due to close personal ties to Putin

"I'm Ksenia Sobchak, and I've got something to lose. But I'm here." That's what the 30-year-old socialite and TV personality said when she began her unlikely foray into political activism by taking the stage at a huge anti-Putin rally in December.

It was a shaky start.

Sobchak was greeted with jeers and boos from protesters, who derided her as a rich party girl and were suspicious of her motives because of her family's close personal ties to Vladimir Putin. Six months later, Sobchak has been accepted into the ranks of Russia's protest leaders, completing a transformation that reflects the civic awakening of millions of young Russians after a decade of political passivity.

Young Internet-savvy office workers, students and members of what is known as the "creative class" form the heart of the protest movement that has drawn tens of thousands onto the streets of Moscow since a December parliamentary election was won by Putin's party with what observers said was widespread fraud.

Russian socialite and TV host Ksenia Sobchak. ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Putin has taken a tougher approach toward the opposition since returning to the presidency in May. But while hundreds of demonstrators have been detained over the past month, Sobchak found out only this week that she does indeed have something to lose. Her apartment was among the homes of protest leaders that were raided by police. They read her personal correspondence, seized her passport — and confiscated at least one million euros ($1.3 million) in cash.

It was a quick change of fortune for Russia's It Girl.

Sobchak had been considered untouchable because of Putin's enduring loyalty to her late father, who as mayor of St. Petersburg in the early 1990s gave Russia's future president his first government job and launched his political career. Putin began a third term on May 7 after four years as prime minister.

When asked about Putin, rumoured to be her godfather, Sobchak has expressed gratitude to him for taking care of her family after her father, Anatoly Sobchak, fell out of political favour. She has been restrained in her criticism of Putin himself, while at the same time calling for more open government, fair elections and an end to the corruption that pervades Russian society. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

St. Petersburg mayor Anatoly Sobchak, and Sobchak's daughter Ksenia, as he visits Sobchak's grave at a

ITAR-TASS/PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SERVICE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Opposition

A glance at the activists

Ahead of an anti-Putin rally Tuesday, Russian investigators searched homes of several key opposition figures and summoned them for questioning. Here is a look at some of those leading the protests.

ALEXEI NAVALNY

The 36-year-old corruption-fighting lawyer and popular blogger has played a key role in mobilizing Russia's young to rally against Putin's rule. The charismatic and ambitious Navalny spearheaded a series of rallies in Moscow during the winter that brought up to 100,000 people in the streets in the run-up to March's vote. He reaches tens of thousands through his blog and has more than 250,000 followers on Twitter. Navalny has tapped into people's anger over the corruption that pervades public life.

SERGEI UDALTSOV

The leader of the Left Front opposition movement, 35-year-old Udaltsov has been at the forefront of anti-Putin protests for several years. A great-grandson of a Bolshevik revolutionary, Udaltsov has consistently defied the authorities, staging unsanctioned marches and rallies. He also launched numerous hunger strikes and spent weeks in hospitals. During his political career, Udaltsov was arrested more than 100 times and spent months in prison.

ILYA YASHIN

The 28-year-old member of the leadership of the opposition Solidarity movement has been among key organizers of recent protests. A fiery speaker, Yashin is a passionate critic of the government. "A smart government deals with reasons for protest. A stupid government fights protesters," he said on his blog. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russia. Official accused of death threat

Russia's top investigator denied Thursday that he threatened to kill an investigative reporter over a story that lambasted his agency, but apologized for an "emotional outburst" with the journalist.

Novaya Gazeta, Russia's leading investigative publication, claimed Wednesday that Investigative Committee chief Gen.-Col. Alexander Bastrykin took reporter Sergei Sokolov to a forest outside Moscow where he threatened to kill him and then joked that he would lead the investigation into his death.

The alleged June 4 incident followed Sokolov's story that accused Bastrykin's agency of failing to punish the perpetrator of a 2010 killing of 12 people, including four children, by a gang in southern Russia.

Bastrykin said he had invited the journalist to meet the team that investigated the 2010 killings — and then had a "very emotional conversation" with him. But the conversation did not take place in a forest, he insisted. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Egyptian court dissolves parliament, concentrates generals' grip on power

Presidential runoff. Rulings are a 'full-fledged coup': Islamic Brotherhood member

Judges appointed by Hosni Mubarak dissolved Egypt's Islamist-dominated parliament Thursday and ruled his former prime minister eligible for the presidential runoff election this weekend — setting the stage for the military and remnants of the old regime to stay in power.

The politically charged rulings dealt a heavy blow to the fundamentalist Islamic Brotherhood, with one senior member calling the decisions a "full-fledged coup," and the group vowed to rally the public against the military.

The decision by the Supreme Constitutional Court effectively erased the tenuous progress from Egypt's troubled transition in the past year, leaving the country with no parliament and concentrating power even more firmly in the hands of the generals who took over from Mubarak.

Several hundred people gathered in Cairo's Tahrir Square after the rulings to denounce the action and rally against former prime minister Ahmed Shafiq, the presidential candidate seen by critics as a symbol of Mubarak's autocratic rule. But with no calls by the Brotherhood or other groups for massive demonstrations, the crowd did not grow.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Military might

- **Activists who engineered Egypt's uprising have long suspected the generals would try to cling to power, explaining that after 60 years as the nation's single most dominant institution, the military would be reluctant to surrender its authority or leave its economic empire to civilian scrutiny.**

An Egyptian boy peers out of barbed wire, his face painted with the number 25, the date of the Egyptian revolution, during a protest in front of the Supreme Constitutional Court in Cairo on Thursday. Egypt's highest court has ruled that Hosni Mubarak's last prime minister can stay in the presidential race.

AMR NABIL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Metro Saskatoon is seeking an individual to achieve regional targets for print & online and other performance metrics by developing new business.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Manage and grow an assigned retail sales territory
- Design advertising programs to reflect clients' objectives
- New Business Development
- Creatively negotiate rates
- Sell a portfolio of Metro branded products

REQUIREMENTS OF THE POSITION:

- Post secondary education in a related field
- 3 years experience in sales/media sales
- Proficient in Microsoft Office applications
- Creative, efficient, flexible & detail oriented
- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Proven track record in profitable selling

Interested individuals who possess the skills described above are requested to submit their resume and cover letter via email to hr@metronews.ca no later than June 22, 2012. PLEASE QUOTE: "Sales Representative - Saskatoon" in the subject line. All submissions will be treated as confidential.

metro

West Bank-bound. Ex-Israeli soldier wants to become a Palestinian now

In an odd twist to the decades-old Israeli-Palestinian saga, a former Israeli soldier has embarked on a new fight: He wants to renounce his Israeli citizenship and move to a Palestinian refugee camp in the West Bank.

Andre Pshenichnikov, a 23-year-old Jewish immigrant from Tajikistan, was recently detained by Israeli police for residing illegally in the Deheishe Refugee Camp near Bethlehem.

There he told police that he wants to break all ties with Israel, give up his Israeli citizenship and obtain a Palestinian one instead.

Pshenichnikov is currently travelling in Europe for two months. When he returns, he hopes to move to the West Bank.

It's incredibly rare for Israelis to seek to live under Palestinian rule. There are only a few known cases of Jewish Israelis who have done so, mostly ones who have married Palestinians, as well as a journalist for the Israeli daily Haaretz who moved to Ramallah and reports from there. None is known to have renounced Israeli citizenship — though some Israelis living abroad have. Nor is any known to have sought Palestinian residency instead. Israel does not allow dual citizenships.

Reached at his Israeli home, Pshenichnikov's mother, Svetlana, said she was troubled by her son's plans.

"I'm his mother and I am trying to support him like a mother should," she said. "But I don't support his war."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Renouncing citizenship

- **Officially renouncing Israeli citizenship is a lengthy, complicated process.** Interior Ministry spokeswoman Sabine Hadad said that one has to file a request at an Israeli representative office overseas, prove that one has another citizenship and then await a ruling, which is not always granted.

Rising religious tension

Tunisia bans marches over fears of violence

The Tunisian government has banned a series of marches planned for Friday by hardline Islamists and rival groups citing concerns of possible violence in the country, which is grappling with rising religious tension as it struggles to emerge from years of secular dictatorship.

The announcement Thursday by the Interior Ministry comes as Tunisians are still reeling from clashes earlier this week between police and religious youth in the capital and other cities, after protests erupted over an upscale art exhibit that hardline Islamists alleged was blasphemous.

Tunisians overthrew secular dictator Zine El Abidine Ben Ali last year in a popular uprising that sparked similar pro-democracy movements around the region.

The old regime savagely repressed any manifestations of political Islam, and in its absence there has been an upsurge of new religious groups.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bank of Canada warning of fallout from EU crisis

A nation exposed. Federal regulatory body puts Canadians on alert over instability created by inflated real-estate values, household debt

The Bank of Canada continues to warn that the high level of household debt and overvalued real estate in this country have left the economy vulnerable if a financial shock erupts in Europe.

In its financial system review identifying risks to the economy, the bank noted certain segments of the housing market that have a persistent oversupply — such as condos in Toronto — face a higher risk of a price correction.

Using a hypothetical stress test, the bank says a three per cent increase in unemployment — about the same as occurred in the recent recession — would almost triple the proportion of indebted households that would go into arrears.

The current rate is currently about half a per cent and could rise 1.3 per cent under that scenario.

A shock would also cut into net worth of Canadians. The bank points out that 40 per cent of household worth is tied to the value of their real estate holdings, compared to only 34 per cent a decade ago.

"Markets in Canada have been relatively stable.... Nevertheless, a further significant deterioration in global financial conditions could have a considerable impact in Canada through trade, financial and confidence channels," the bank said Thursday its semi-annual financial systems review.

In fact, the bank says the spillover effects on Canada's financial institutions, such as banks, "would be substantial."

While the report does not attempt to place odds on the chance of a Europe-centred shock, it judges the risks as "very high."

The dire warning — not altogether unexpected from the central bank given renewed turbulence in Europe, including a possibility that Greece will exit the euro currency zone after Sunday's elections — gives some urgency to the G20 summit of leaders in Mexico next week, where Europe will be the main topic.

In Ottawa on Thursday, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said non-European countries in the G20 need to keep up the pressure on the Europeans to put up sufficient money to "overwhelm" the problem.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The ripple effect

The central bank concluded that the risks of a European financial meltdown could ripple around the world.

- **Diminished growth.** Rock-bottom interest rates would further erode the positions of life insurance companies and pension plans and boost household borrowing.
- **A negative feedback loop.** What the central bank is describing is a scenario almost identical to what happened in 2008 when the world was plunged into the worst downturn since the Great Depression.

A time for building bridges in Windsor?

Vehicles cross the Ambassador Bridge as viewed from Windsor, Ont., June 1, 2009. Prime Minister Stephen Harper will be in Windsor and across the river in Detroit on Friday amid speculation he will be helping announce a new bridge between the two border cities. About one-quarter of all Canada-U.S. trade currently flows across the Ambassador Bridge. But the bridge is close to 100 years old and bottlenecks are not uncommon. The Ontario Trucking Association is among those who have been eagerly awaiting the announcement of a second bridge. DAVE CHIDLEY|THE CANADIAN PRESS

$7B Ponzi scheme

Ex-tycoon sentenced to 110 years in prison

Former jet-setting Texas tycoon R. Allen Stanford, whose financial empire once spanned the Americas, was sentenced Thursday to 110 years in prison for bilking investors out of more than $7 billion US over 20 years in one of the largest Ponzi schemes in U.S. history.

U.S. District Judge David Hittner handed down the sentence during a court hearing in which two people spoke on behalf of Stanford's investors. Prosecutors had asked that Stanford be sentenced to 230 years in prison, the maximum sentence possible after a jury convicted the one-time billionaire in March on 13 of 14 fraud-related counts.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ontario

Cable technicians going on strike Friday: Union

The union representing 200 technicians who service Rogers Communications Inc. customers in Ontario say they will go on strike on Friday at 8 a.m.

The workers, represented by the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada, are employed by Dependable Home Tech (DHT) and Intek Communications Inc.

The union has said one of the key issues is that employees are paid on a piece-work system, which creates financial instability.

Workers at several Rogers contractors voted to strike last month.

The union accused both Intek and DHT of refusing to bargain.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RIM pays former co-CEOs $12M

The former co-CEOs of BlackBerry-maker Research in Motion will receive a combined $12 million in payouts for leaving their roles at the struggling company.

In a document filed with securities regulators on Thursday, ahead of the company's annual meeting in July, RIM outlined the details of what each former executive receives.

Jim Balsillie will be paid nearly $8 million in salary and other compensation after stepping down as leader in January and leaving the company two months later.

Mike Lazaridis, who remains a member of the board, will be paid about $4 million in salary and compensation under the condition that he will "continue to make himself reasonably available" to help the company in the future.

The deal also gives Lazaridis his own office, executive assistant, as well as a car and driver for two years, at a combined value of about $733,000.

Former Research in Motion co-CEOs Jim Balsillie, left, and Mike Lazaridis talk to media after an Ontario Securities Commission hearing in Toronto in 2009. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

RIM says in the filings that Balsillie and Lazaridis "revolutionized the worldwide wireless industry with the introduction of the BlackBerry and forever changed how the world communicates."

The company has seen its stock plummet and its financial results significantly weaken in the face of intense competition from the rival Apple iPhone and devices using Google's Android operating system.

In January, RIM promoted Thorsten Heins to the leadership role, a position that is earning him $10.2 million for the company's 2012 financial year.

He was paid $1.9 million including about $825,000 in stock-based compensation for 2011.

His terms also include an agreement to be paid his annual base salary for 24 months if the company decides to terminate his employment "without cause or for good reason."

Karima Bawa, who announced her retirement as RIM's chief legal officer last month, will be paid a lump sum of about $982,000, or 24 months of salary, to maintain a "reasonable ongoing co-operation" with the company and non-compete agreements. Bawa received $2.6 million in salary and other compensation in 2012. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 97.68¢ (+0.52¢)

TSX 11,466.42 (-31.45)

OIL $83.91 US (+$1.29)

GOLD $1,619.60 US (+20¢)

Natural gas: $2.495 US (+31¢)
Dow Jones: 12,651.91 (+155.53)

.com. Big brands targeting domain-name suffixes

Amazon.com wants ".joy," Google wants ".love" and L'Oreal wants ".beauty."

Big brands are behind hundreds of proposals for new Internet addresses, including scores for generic terms such as "cruise," ".kids" and ".tires."

If approved, Amazon could use ".author" in an attempt to dominate online book-selling, while Google could use ".love" to collect registration fees from its rivals.

Amazon and Google also are vying for ".app" and ".music," while the wine company Gallo Vineyards Inc. wants ".barefoot."

It's all part of the largest expansion of the Internet address system since its creation in the 1980s, a process likely to cause headaches for some companies while creating vast opportunities for others. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The numbers

1,409

There were 1,930 proposals for 1,409 different suffixes. About 100 were for suffixes in non-English characters, including Chinese, Arabic and Thai.

WALKING A FINE LINE

THE LIST
Mike Benhaim
Metro

1 **Buyer beware:** Céline Dion's 19-acre Île Gagnon retreat is the most expensive property ever listed on the Quebec housing market. The Normandy-style château is listed at almost $30 million, but rumour has it they may trade it straight up for Spain.

2 **Not cool:** Last weekend, an Ontario couple allegedly left their dog in a car with no water in 30 C heat. The dog died, and the owners face a $2,000 fine, six months of jail time, or 18 hours in a sauna.

3 **Tall tales:** Friday, Nik Wallenda will attempt to cross the Niagara Gorge on a tightrope. Offspring of the legendary Flying Wallendas have been bred into death-defying feats for almost two centuries. Despite meticulous training, several have actually been killed or left disabled performing these acts. Someone in my family tripped on their shoelace in 1978, and the rest of us have been wearing loafers ever since. Just sayin'.

4 **Set your PVRs:** CBC's newest reality show will feature auditions to play Dorothy in Andrew Lloyd Webber's production of The Wizard of Oz, which hits Toronto's Ed Mirvish Theatre in December. Girls will compete for a chance to wear the ruby slippers on the cleverly entitled Over the Rainbow, where they will sing (you guessed it) Over the Rainbow. Another innovative gem from our federally funded friends at the CBC.

5 **Dallas:** TNT's revival of one of the most popular '80s shows is a success. With a good-looking new cast and a few originals, there probably won't be a "Who shot JR?" cliffhanger this time around. A more likely ending would be "Who slipped JR a Viagra?"

6 **Papillon:** A study at Yale University recently revealed that female butterflies preferred males with flashier wings. Erica Westerman, the study's lead author, says: "The male did not have to court them or engage in flashy behaviour. There is a bias in what females learn.... Extra ornamentation is better." Is this a metaphor?

7 **Rock of Ages:** The star-studded film version of the successful play debuts Friday. A safe choice for viewers who enjoy a good soundtrack. As I said two years ago when the play opened, you can expect your "run-of-the-mill, guitar-grinding, drum-thumping, head-banging, cross-gender, glam-metal, '80s rebel-rock." Who among us can't relate to that?

8 **Righteous rockers:** This week in 1964, the Rolling Stones were touring in the U.S. when they were reminded of a show that had been booked a year earlier. The band had to fly back to the U.K. to perform at Oxford's Magdalen College for £100 ($160). Despite increased rates and demand, the gentlemen honoured their obligation. Airfare cost them £2,500 ($4,000).

9 **Three words:** This weekend we pay homage to the men that raised us, taught us right from wrong, picked us up when we fell and snuck us a treat when mom said "No." Some left abruptly and some suffered far too long, but if your dad is around today, pick up the phone and tell him you love him, or head on over and give him a hug. It's better than a tie or that awful cologne, and will last a whole lot longer. Happy Father's Day.

The Rolling Stones CONTRIBUTED

Bare bones of archaeology

VALENTINA PETROVA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Move over, Dracula

'Vampire' skeleton on display in Bulgaria

A skeleton dating back to the Middle Ages and recently unearthed in the town of Sozopol is displayed at the National History Museum in Sofia, Bulgaria, on Thursday.

Ever since archaeologists announced last week that they had found two ancient skeletons in Bulgaria with iron rods thrust through their chests, the media have been reporting how Bulgarians once did that to prevent the dead emerging from the grave as vampires. On Saturday, one of those skeletons will be put on display at the National History Museum, and its director, Bozhidar Dimitrov, says he expects there to be a big turnout.

Dimitrov said Thursday that some people who were believed to have led evil lives were treated that way when they were buried in parts of Bulgaria as recently as the beginning of the last century.

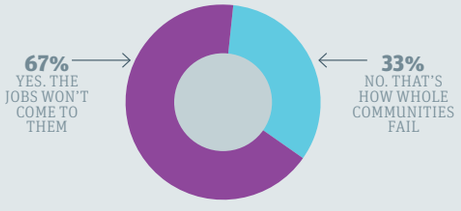
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This 700-year-old skeleton was stabbed in the chest with an iron rod and had his teeth pulled before being put to rest. The media have reported that because vampire tales remain popular in Balkan countries, some people in the Black Sea resort of Sozopol, where the skeletons were found in a graveyard, are having trouble sleeping at night.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Should the unemployed be expected to move to get a job?



Twitter

@S_Beev : #Saskatoon Pride Festival Parade / Walk on Saturday - starts at 12pm (I think). See ya there #yxe! @PrideSaskatoon

@kdub5587: #RiderNation Are the helmets only going to have the numbers? I miss the logo on there! @sskroughriders

@kamikazeecanuck: Nothing as fun as unplugging a downspout, in the pouring rain, at 5:30 in the morning! Hate my neighbors elm trees! #yxe

@bigfly7: Don't matter if its pre-season or not, it's great to have rider football on tv! #RiderNation #letsgogetit

@melbournetyvhq5: So does this CP strike mean I can safely drive down Central Ave without being stuck at a train?? yxe

metro
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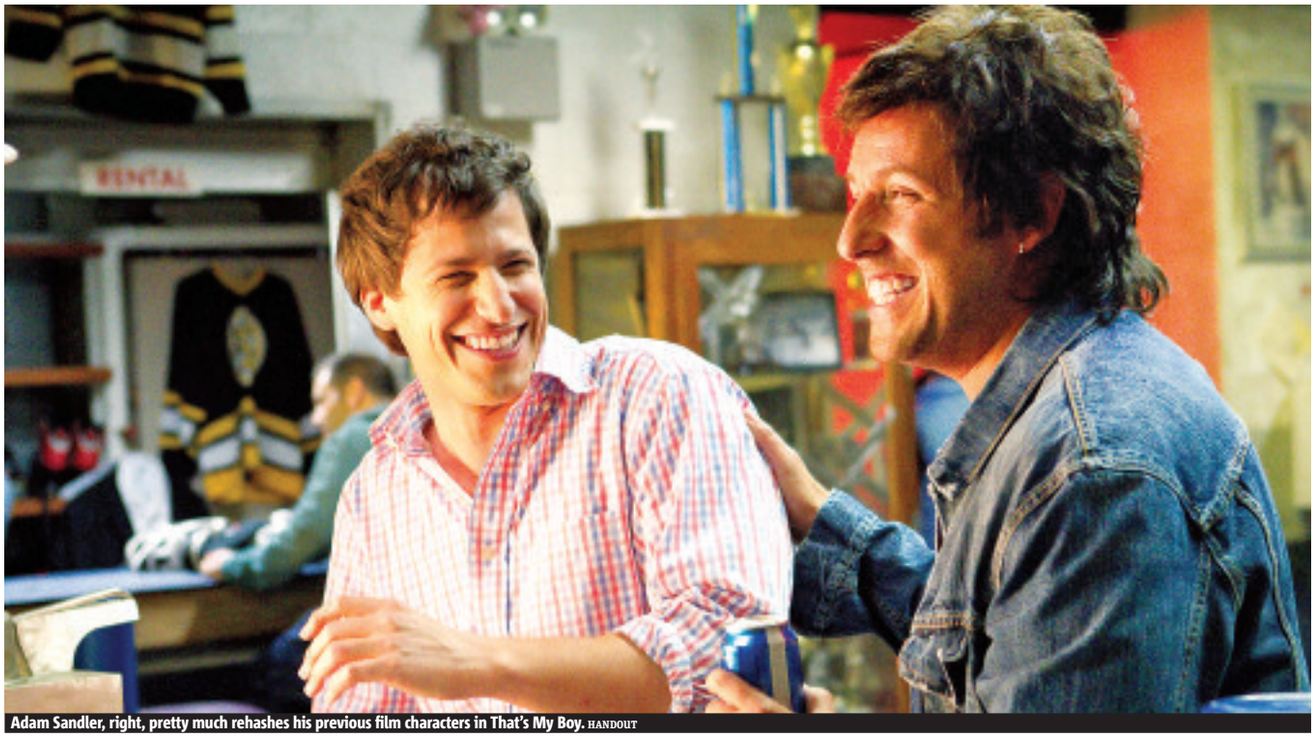
Adam Sandler, right, pretty much rehashes his previous film characters in That's My Boy. HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Sandler keeps sinking

That's My Boy. It looks like Adam Sandler has finally gone from tiresome to just embarrassing

Synopsis

Adam Sandler plays Donny Berger, a party animal who, at age 13, engaged in extra-curricular activities with his homeroom teacher. When their lovemaking interrupted the graduation ceremony, she was sent to jail, and he was left to raise their baby Han Solo Berger (Andy Samberg), with disastrous results. Cut to present day. Father and son are estranged, and Donny's glory days are behind him. He needs $43,000 to pay off taxes or he's going to jail. He turns to the one person he knows might have the money, his son, now a wealthy businessman on the eve of getting married.

- Richard:
- Mark:

Richard: Mark, I felt like I witnessed something special tonight. But not special in a good way. Tonight we sat through That's My Boy and I can't help but think that what we saw wasn't so much a movie, but more some kind of performance art where people who should know better do awful things and charge you 10 bucks to watch.

I hope this is some kind of postmodern art project, 'cuz a comedy it ain't. What did you think?

Mark: I didn't laugh, but I didn't expect to. What can you say about a movie that tries to resurrect Vanilla Ice's career, and almost succeeds?

You may call it performance art, but that would only be accurate if someone actually performed in this pastiche. I don't know what irritated me more: Sandler's sketch acting style, Andy Samberg's unfunny, wussy role, the pedophilia and incest motifs, or the desperate, forced "edginess" of the movie. You're right about the movie being "special" — like a train wreck, I couldn't look away. At least I wasn't bored, although I spent a lot of time wishing I were.

RC: I think Adam Sandler has finally turned the corner from tiresome to embarrassing. It's hard to imagine a lazier rehashing of all the man-children he has played in the past.

There's shades of Mr. Deeds, Billy Madison and Happy Gilmore here, all topped off with a grating New England character voice that sounds like a cross between a can opener opening a can of Boston Baked Beans and screeching tires.

MB: I kept asking myself: would this movie be more palatable if Sandler dropped the grating accent? And then I went one step further and recast the role with Steve Carell in the lead and you know what? It would still smell. Richard, you call Sandler's character a lazy rehash, but the whole movie is dripping in '80s and '90s nostalgia — probably the decades when Sandler's comedy made most sense. Can you pick a scene or actor in this mess that stood above the rest of it? Mine would have to be the scene set in the upscale mens' spa.

RC: No one escapes this movie unsullied. Also, what does Adam Sandler have against The Godfather?

First he debases Pacino in Jack & Jill, and now James Caan. It's a good thing Brando is gone.

MB: I just emailed Robert Duvall telling him to watch out. Sandler's obviously working his way down the list.

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Scene in brief

Streep gives props to Davis

They may have been Oscar rivals earlier this year, but there's nothing but love between Meryl Streep and Viola Davis. Streep, who ended Davis' awards run for The Help by winning the lead actress Oscar for The Iron Lady, lauded her friend and colleague Tuesday at Women in Film's annual Crystal + Lucy Awards. She called Davis "a lion-hearted woman" and a gifted and determined actress.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Indian businessman becomes weapons maker for Hollywood

Musical

Rock of Ages

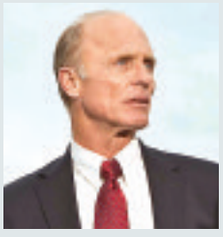
Director. Adam Shankman

Stars. Tom Cruise, Alec Baldwin, Russell Brand

●●○○○

Borrowed from Broadway, Rock of Ages takes the '80s hair-band-hit musical and turns it into a celebrity sing-a-long that's as shallow as Poison lyrics. Assembled by Adam Shankman (Hairspray) and featuring Tom Cruise (who can sing!) and Alec Baldwin (who can't), it wedges in a pencil-thin romance between two struggling singers. It aims to be nothin' but a good time, but when Cruise isn't strutting around ambiguously imitating Axl Rose, the story is tediously banal. **STEVE GOW**

Drama



Virginia

Director. Dustin Lance Black

Stars. Jennifer Connelly, Ed Harris, Emma Roberts

●●●○○

The latest film from Dustin Lance Black (Milk, J. Edgar) has a little bit of everything: romance, revenge, religion, robberies. The list goes on. The film centres around Virginia, a mentally ill single mother who fakes a pregnancy to ensnare the married sheriff she's been sleeping with for decades (Harris). But there are too many subplots and minor characters that distract from Virginia's story. Despite this, the film is held together by a beautiful performance by Connelly in the title role. **REGAN REID**

Drama

The Forgiveness of Blood

Director. Joshua Marston

Stars. Tristan Halilaj, Sindi Lacej

●●●○○

There's no denying that American Joshua Marston skillfully captures the clash of cultural mores of Albanian blood feuds in The Forgiveness of Blood. However, this tale about a family confined to their property for fear of reprisal after the patriarch kills someone suffers from its own story's state of stagnation. While authenticity helps sell the drama, Forgiveness still can't match the tension of Marston's previous hit, Maria Full of Grace. **STEVE GOW**

Armageddon's a funny thing in Scafaria's film

Using heroin and orgies. Seeking a Friend for the End of the World finds comedy in how people prepare for their death

STEVE GOW
scene@metro.ca

Keira Knightley, seated left, and Steve Carell star in the comedy Seeking a Friend for the End of the World. HANDOUT

When Armageddon comes, Lorene Scafaria will likely be found listening to music and dreaming of lost love.

"I'm very much a Penny," admitted the filmmaker about the Keira Knightley character in her new movie Seeking a Friend for the End of the World. "I'd probably be too flaky to get my act together yet I'd want to so badly."

In the apocalyptic comedy, Knightley and Steve Carell pair up as a giant asteroid brings end times to Earth — an event that's apparently not as tragic as it seems.

"Death is surreal," said Scafaria of her comic vision of humanity coping with inevitable catastrophe through everything from doing heroin at dinner parties to destroying property. "I talked to some people who said they would go to work because they wouldn't know where else to go … making decisions on how to spend your last three weeks just always seemed comical to me."

As such, the first-time director has drafted a clever cinematic mash-up between an "end-of-the-world" genre film and a traditional romantic comedy.

Scafaria admits the movie "wasn't really given a life until Steve Carell got on board" and that it's his everyman quality that gives Seeking a Friend credibility.

"He's so subtle and charming obviously," said Scafaria. "(But) he's got such a love of humanity in himself and his work that I think most comedians don't bring to the table."

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Broadway Theatre
715 Broadway Ave., 306-652-6556

The Boys in the Band (STC) Tue 7
Footnote (G) Sat 7 Mon 7
No Films Showing Today (STC) Sun Thu
The Undefeated (STC) Fri 7 Sat 9 Mon 9 Wed 9:30
Valley of the Dolls (STC) Tue 9:30

Cineplex Odeon Centre
3510 8th St. East, 306-955-1938

The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (G) Fri-Sun 9:45 Mon-Thu 8:35
Desi Romeos (STC) Fri 6:55-10:15 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:40-6:55-10:15 Mon-Thu 5:05-8:20
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri 6:30 Sat-Sun 12:25-3:30-6:30 Mon-Thu 5:20
Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted (G) No Passes Fri 8-10:30 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:40-8:05 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Marvel's the Avengers (PG) Fri 7:10-10:20 Sat-Sun 12:50-4-7:10-10:20 Mon-Thu 5:10-8:25 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Men in Black 3 (PG) Fri 7:40-10:10 Sat-Sun 2:20-5-7:40-10:10 Mon-Tue 5:35-8 Wed 1:20-5:35-8 Thu 5:35-8
Prometheus (14A) No Passes Mon-Thu 5:50-8:40
Prometheus 3D (14A) No Passes Fri 7:15-10:05 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:30-4:20-7:15-10:05 No Passes Wed 1:20
Snow White & the Huntsman (PG) Fri 7:30-10:25 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:40-7:30-10:25 Mon-Tue 5:30-8:15 Wed 1:10-5:30-8:15 Thu 5:30-8:15

Galaxy Cinemas Saskatoon
347 2nd Ave. South, 306-664-5060

Blazing Saddles (STC) Sun 1
Chernobyl Diaries (14A) Fri-Sat 3:55-6:05-8:20-10:35 Sun 1:35-3:55-6:05-8:20-10:35 Mon 10:10 Tue-Thu 7:55-10:10
The Dictator (14A) Fri 4:25-6:30-8:40-10:50 Sat 12:10-2:20-4:25-6:30-8:40-10:50 Sun 12:10-2:20-4:25-10:50 Mon 10:20 Tue-Thu 8:10-10:20
The Iron Giant (STC) Sat 11
Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted (G) No Passes Fri 4:55-7:25-9:45 No Passes Sat 11:10-12:05-2:30-4:55-7:25-9:45 No Passes Sun 12:05-2:30-4:55-7:25-9:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:20-9:45
Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted 3D (G) No Passes Fri 5:40-8:05-10:25 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:50-3:15-5:40-8:05-10:25 No Passes Mon-Thu 8:05-10:25
Marvel's the Avengers (PG) Fri 10:15 Sat-Sun 3:40-10:15 Mon 7:20-10:15 Tue-Thu 10:15
Marvel's the Avengers 3D (PG) Fri 7:20 Sat-Sun 1:40-7:20 Tue-Thu 7:20
Men in Black 3 (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 1:05-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:25
Men in Black 3 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 4:50-10:35 Mon-Thu 10:30
National Theatre Live: Frankenstein (Original Casting) (STC) Sat 12:30 Thu 6:45
Prometheus (14A) No Passes Fri 4:20-7:15-10:05 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:30-4:20-7:15-10:05 No Passes Mon-Thu 8:20
Prometheus 3D (14A) No Passes Fri 5-7:55-10:50 No Passes Sat 11:10-2:10-5-7:55-10:50 No Passes Sun 2:10-5-7:55-10:50 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:40-10:30
Reservoir Dogs (18A) Mon 7
Rock of Ages (PG) No Passes Fri 4:40-7:45-10:40 No Passes Sat 11-1:55-4:40-7:45-10:40 No Passes Sun 1:55-4:40-7:45-10:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:15-10:05
Snow White & the Huntsman (PG) Fri 4:45-7:50-10:45 Sun 2-4:45-7:50-10:45 Mon-Thu 7:05-10
That's My Boy (14A) No Passes Fri 5:20-8-10:45 No Passes Sat-Sun 12-2:40-5:20-8-10:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:30-10:10
What to Expect When You're Expecting (PG) Fri 5:05-7:40-10:20 Sat 12-2:35-5:05-7:40-10:20 Sun 3:15-7:40-10:20 Mon-Wed 7-9:50 Thu 9:50
WWE: No Way Out (STC) Sun 6

Roxy Theatre
320 20th St West, 306-955-8642

In the Family (G) Sat-Sun 4
The Lady (14A) Fri 8 Sat-Sun 1-8 Mon-Thu 8
Marley (PG) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 2-7 Mon-Thu 7

Rainbow Cinemas Saskatoon
The Centre at Circle & 8th, 306-955-8642

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri 1:10-4:10-7:15-10 Sat-Sun 4:10-7:15-10 Mon-Wed 1:10-4:10-7:15-10 Thu 4:10-7:15-10
American Reunion (18A) Fri-Thu 9:50
Battleship (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:50-6:50-9:35 Sat
Chimpanzee (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-4:05
Dark Shadows (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-4-7:10-9:40 Sat
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Thu 1-4:30-7:30
The Five-Year Engagement (14A) Fri-Thu 7:05-9:45
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (G) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:25-7:20-9:25
The Lucky One (PG) Fri-Thu 7:25-9:55
Midnight Movie Marathon (STC) Sat 12 Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7-9:30 Sat
The Pirates! Band of Misfits (G) Fri-Thu 12:50-4:15
The Princess Bride (PG) Sat

Brave offers up a Disney princess like none you've ever seen before

New direction.
Rookie director Mark Andrews talks about how audiences expect something different from Pixar heroines

NED EHRBAR
scene@metronews.ca

Set in ancient Scotland, Pixar's new animated feature film Brave stars Kelly Macdonald as the voice of bold, free-thinking Princess Merida. HANDOUT

First-time feature director Mark Andrews knows a thing or two about pressure. While he's been a longtime Pixar team member — and director Brad Bird's right-hand man — the task of taking on Brave, the animation studio's latest feature, was more than a little daunting. And it doesn't help that he had to step in for original director Brenda Chapman. But Andrews loves a challenge almost as much as he loves Scotland, where the tale takes place.

Scotland seems like such a mystical place, with each location having some sort of myth to it.
It is, it is. Everything had a story. Nothing didn't have a story. Every creek and branch and thing. But that was their culture, sharing these stories, and you knew these locations because you had to make them memorable — or stuff actually did happen there. In developing the film, we wanted that aspect in there that every character is telling a story or knows a story, or there's a story about everything that's happening in Brave, so you get story upon story upon story upon story, interwoven in the actual movie.

Did you have any mystical run-ins yourself there?
On my honeymoon, we were in a hotel in Oban, and right on the counter there's a big thing with newspaper articles on it, from way back when, about this hotel's history. I'm just flipping through, and all of a sudden I go, "Oh my God, ghost in room 216." And just as I read this, the clerk hands us over our keys to room 215. I'm all, "Oh crap." The ghost only shows herself to women to warn women away from men. The ghost is the ghost of a woman who killed herself jumping out of a window because the man she was in love with, that was the last night there in that room, he goes off to sea, doesn't tell her when he comes back that he met somebody else. So she's waiting there for him to rendezvous, but he never returns so she offed herself. So the ghost replays their last night together, that argument, and rearranges the furniture in the room back to how it was back in the day. So the maids keep coming in and going, "Ah, the ghost..."

You've got to be aware that when you make a movie with Disney about a princess, there will be inevitable comparisons.
We're the bastard child of Disney — don't put that down. We're conscious of it in the sense that yeah, she's a princess, but why is she a princess? (story-wise), there's more catastrophe that can happen. She can't just be a selfish milkmaid who can run off and marry somebody, right? We're all, "I don't care about that. Let 'em marry somebody." But here's this person, this character that doesn't want to do that stuff. "Um, lady, you're going to be a queen someday. You're going to have to step up." So we get those stakes. But it quickly turns and goes away from that idea and that concept. So it's just a very superficial concept, but because it's so easy and somebody says princess and Disney and thinks that's all that movie is, great. Let them think that. Never try and out-guess us.

Since you came into this project already in progress, how involved were you with casting?
The only person that I got to cast was Kelly Macdonald. We had Reese Witherspoon on it, she was great, but the movie was taking so long and she had other things that she had to do down there. When I got on, we were going to do a whole 'nother year or so with her, and she was all, "I've got these other movies, and that commitment does not work out." So, scheduling conflicts, she had to leave us, sadly. So I'm going, "Great. I get on and I have no main character. What am I going to do?" Well, I started looking for a main character, and fast — by Monday — because we were flying. We found Kelly Macdonald, and she was available and gungho, and she's great. I didn't know who the hell she was at all, so just hearing her and seeing little clips, I was thinking, "I don't know, can she do this kind of comedy? Can she do this kind of character?" And then talking to her and stuff and hearing her read some lines, I was like, "She's going to be great!"

Quoted

"Somebody says princess and Disney and thinks that's all the movie is, great. Let them think that. Never try and out-guess us."

Mark Andrews. Director of Brave
Explaining that those who underestimate his film will be surprised.

Sound Check

Heads up hipsters

SOUND CHECK
Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

One of my downtown Toronto hipster peeps is on the phone. "Where are you off to next?"

"Calgary," I replied. "As soon as NXNE wraps up, I'm heading for the Sled Island (SI) Music and Arts Festival."

"What's that?" my hipster friend sniffed, "Some kind of rodeo?"

"It's Western Canada's largest indie music festival. This is year six."

"Calgary?" he snorted. "You can't be serious. Everyone knows that there's no culture in Calgary, let alone any kind of proper music scene. It's all dirty oil, cowboy hats and horse manure."

Hardly. Tucked in just before the Stampede (which turns 100 this year, by the way), SI's goal to bring some life to the downtown core, a place that can feel very, very empty after office hours. It's also about showcasing all kind of indie culture.

For anyone into indie music, film, art, and comedy, SI is a fantastic place to mix it. Hundreds of bands will play venues ranging from Olympic Plaza and the National Music Centre to tiny bars and churches — with a Royal Canadian Legion or two thrown in.

So, who's coming? Here are of some highlights for what some consider it to be the coolest event of its type in the country:

- Feist, (a Calgary native, lest we forget) will play a big outdoor event a week from tonight.
- Alt-rock elder statesmen Thurston Moore (Sonic Youth), Steven Malkmus (Pavement), Lou Barlow (Sebadoh, Dinosaur Jr.) and Nomeansno.
- Shadowy Men on a Shadowy Planet (best known for their surf-rock theme, Having an Average Weekend aka the theme from The Kids in the Hall) will reunite for their first show in sixteen years.
- Andrew WK promises to keep partying hard with performances, DJing and motivational talks on (what else?) partying hard.
- Craig Finn will do double duty, performing solo and with his day job band, The Hold Steady.
- Past Polaris prize nominees, including The Sadies and Timber Timbre.
- Lots of super-hot indie bands: Yamantaka / Sonic Titan, Russian Circles, Young Empires, Shabazz Palaces and Parlovr.

By the way, my friend should know that Calgary has been designated the Cultural Capital of Canada for 2012. For full details, go to sledisland.com.

The evolutions of Sting

Q & A. Singer-songwriter sat down with Metro to discuss his iPad app, what he's listening to these days and the importance of philanthropy

SZONJA KRESINGER
Metro World News

Sting performs during the 2012 Concert for the Rainforest Fund at Carnegie Hall in New York City. GETTY IMAGES

Sting (born Gordon Matthew Thomas Sumner) has donned many hats and experimented with myriad genres during his 35 years in the spotlight.

From his early days as the lead in the popular and ever-changing new wave band the Police, to a solo career incorporating everything from jazz to new age sounds, to the numerous humanitarian and environmental causes he has lent his celebrity status to, Sting is no stranger to exploring new paths.

Yet his most recent tour, Back to Bass, was something of a stripping down for the prolific artist where the path he took was the most basic one.

Having just come off the Symphonicity tour, performing arrangements of his songs with large orchestras, he wanted to do something simpler, an approach he's continuing during his current summer tour.

How did it feel to put your recent box set together, taking a look back at all these years?

I'm not a particularly nostalgic person, so initially, it was quite challenging for me to really look back when my instinct has always been to move forward. But I did feel it was worth taking some time to reflect, seeing what I had achieved in the past 25 years. I certainly had a good time living those 25 years, and it is a pretty significant milestone in my career. I thought if ever there was a suitable time to do a project like the box set, this was it.

Was there any song you wanted to include but finally dropped?

The most challenging part of the process was choosing the songs and inevitably, there were many that didn't end up on the box set. But asking me to pick my favourites would be like asking me to choose a favourite child! I love them all and each one is unique in their own way. That said, I'm very proud of the end result.

Do you plan a new studio album in the near future?

I don't really have a plan quite yet. I enjoy and appreciate the creative freedom I have, and the ability to do what interests me. I get bored pretty easily and so I always like to do something new and something that is hopefully surprising. I think my audience has come to expect that element of surprise.

So I'm really not sure what comes next, but expect the unexpected.

What types of artistic projects interest you the most?

Like I said, I always like to try something new. I can only do what I'm inspired to do. Right now, I'm working on a play for Broadway.

We're in the very early stages, but I've been writing a lot of music for that. It's completely new territory for me and it's quite exciting.

Why did you decide to have the Sting iPad app? Would you ever consider making music with the help of such gadgets like the iPad?

To me, it's important to embrace new technology and try to evolve with it. I look at the app as a new way of getting music to people.

It's very innovative, but at the same time it reminds me of the days where you'd purchase an album and get to enjoy all of the photos and liner notes, and really get a sense of how the album was made. That's missing in the digital age. In terms of making music with something like the iPad, I wouldn't rule it out. There's no way of anticipating where technology is going next.

Lisa Marie Presley. GETTY IMAGES

Lisa Marie Presley in Storm and Grace land

New music. Memphis singer's first album in seven years is a return to her Southern roots

LINDA LABAN
Metro World News

Madonna, Gwyneth, Lisa Marie Presley: All-American girls gone Brit-crazy. For Presley, there's one particular aspect of being an Anglophile that she likes: the local pub.

"There are lots of pubs near where we live in Sussex, but there's one that's become my local," says Presley. "I love that I can walk in there and see everyone in the village. I never got that social aspect of it until I lived here. I love to go in and say hello to people. And I love Guinness."

The Memphis belle's first new album in seven years, the rootsy Americana set Storm and Grace, is being hailed as a return to her Southern roots, but after her last tour, five years ago, all Presley wanted was to ditch them.

"I didn't feel like doing much of anything for a while," she says. "I am a writer at heart. I felt that if I was in a different place and got rid of all the things I knew that I'd start writing again. I had to leave everyone and everything I knew behind in order to write."

Presley co-wrote the album in England with several contributors, including two Brits: Pulp guitarist Richard Hawley, who's also a solo artist with a Southern twang; and Ed Harcourt, a brilliant melodicist and songwriter.

Top producer

Storm and Grace is produced by 12-time Grammy Award-winner T Bone Burnett, a master of Americana.

- **Quote.** "I am a fan of his work, he's done so many great records," says Presley, who manages enthusiastic praise without gushing. "I sent him some demos and I was really hoping he'd want to work with me. He got back to me so quickly. I was so happy to work with him."

Redfoo, left, and Sky Blu of LMFAO HANDOUT

Expect some Party Rockin' at the MMVAs

LMFAO. Redfoo and Sky Blu are set to host the MuchMusic Video Awards on Sunday

IAN GORMELY
scene@metronews.ca

"Party" and "rocks" are both words regularly used to describe the MuchMusic Video Awards. But the nation's music station decided to make it official this year by having party rocking experts LMFAO host their annual shindig on Sunday night.

Despite never having hosted an awards show, the duo — made up of Redfoo and Sky Blu — weren't the least bit surprised when the offer came their way. "I'm surprised more entities don't have us doing more of this stuff," says Redfoo, on the phone from the band's Houston stop on their current Party Rockin' Tour.

Based in Los Angeles, LMFAO (an acronym for Laughed My F*cking Ass Off) found fame via their brash mix of house beats, pop hooks, dance moves and an ostentatious wardrobe. Their stupidly catchy singles Party Rock Anthem and Sexy and I Know It both hit No. 1 in Canada and the U.S.

And while their sound and lyrics certainly have roots in club culture their crossover appeal is what they believe enticed Much into offering them the gig. "The demographic that they want to tune in is our same fan base," say Redfoo. "And especially now, with a lot of the kids listening to LMFAO and having fun with the videos, the parents now are fans."

The pair logged time riffing on camera for the Grammy's Red Carpet, but Redfoo says the MMVAs are a far more structured event. "Me and Sky are always on," he says, "we're always improving and having fun. That's what we do. So it's about capturing the best of that with some guidelines."

MuchMusic organizers have been in regular communication with the band, hammering out a script that allows the two musician's personalities to shine without derailing the show's momentum, or breaking CRTC rules. They're also doing their own research in preparation for the show. "There is certain inside Canadian humour," he says. "I have to learn these things. I'm on Wikipedia understanding where the maple syrup came from."

THE 2012 MMVAS RED CARPET SPECIAL STARTS SUNDAY AT 8 P.M. ET, FOLLOWED BY THE AWARDS SHOW AT 9 P.M. ET ON MUCHMUSIC AND FUSE.

Surrounded by superstars

Both Redfoo and Sky Blu have rock royalty in their bloodline.

- **Redfoo.** His real name is Stefan Gordy. He is the youngest son of Motown founder Berry Gordy.
- **Sky Blu (a.k.a Skyler Gordy).** He is Berry's grandson, making Stefan Skylar's uncle.
- **Jermaine Jackson.** The one-time Jackson 5 member and Michael's older brother, was once married to Stefan's older sister, Hazel, making the two brothers-in-law.

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This month in celebs who feel sorry for themselves...

Scarlett Johansson gets a lot of attention for her beauty, but it's not something she's exactly thrilled about.

"I don't like being labelled as 'the sexiest woman alive.' As an actress I prefer to maintain the anonymity," Johansson says in an interview with Grazia Italia.

And as for being a role model for other women? She'd rather not.

"There are so many wonderful women out there," Johansson says.

Russell Brand

Forget about Katy, it's the paperwork that stressed Russell out

Always the romantic, Russell Brand says the hardest part of divorcing Katy Perry has been all the paperwork.

"I suppose a divorce is difficult, isn't it? Because of the admin. There's a lot of admin," he tells the Mirror. Still, his 14-month marriage wasn't all bad: "Well, it did work out in a way because you are married for some time, and that's really good, and then you're not married, and that's really good. You just have to have acceptance of things," Brand says.

So how does he find this acceptance so easily?

"I don't want to sound like a lunatic, but if you meditate and do yoga you become attuned to that there is different energy that's constant and very, very beautiful," he insists.

"Some people would call it God, some people would call it karma or the cosmos. Me, I call it sexual charisma."

Baldwin set to marry again

Alec Baldwin and fiancé Hilaria Thomas have reportedly set the date of June 30 for their wedding, according to the New York Post.

"This wasn't a quick decision. It took a lot of planning," a source says. The ceremony will reportedly be a full Catholic wedding at the Bascilla of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral in downtown New York. Baldwin is allowed to get married in the church this time because his first marriage — to Kim Basinger in 1993 — didn't take place in a house of worship. The pair were married on a beach in the Hamptons.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

The swag don't match the sweaters

MONICA WEYMOUTH
scene@metronews.ca

At first, things seemed pretty nice and tidy with the Chris Brown and Drake brawl that broke out early Thursday morning at Manhattan nightclub W.i.P.

Both hip-hop stars have dated Rihanna in the past, both have a habit of gossiping in pop songs, and one has a history of anger management problems: Case closed.

But now, Drake's people are telling TMZ that the rapper wasn't responsible for the gash on Chris Brown's face that popped up on Twitter Thursday morning.

"Drake did not participate in any wrongdoing of any kind last night at W.i.P," his rep tells the site. "He was on his way out of the club when the altercation began."

Another source claims that Philly rapper Meek Mill was the one with the problem, and hit Brown with a bottle after a shouting match. No arrests were made, and all of the boldface names were gone by the time police arrived sometime after 4 a.m.

Brown, for one, seems to back up at least the bottle part. His Twitter feed has since been airbrushed by publicists, but at one point after the incident read, "How u party wit rich n**** that hate? Lol... Throwing bottles like girls? #shameonya!"

Well, someone is certainly getting left out of the Cheesecake Factory mall trip this weekend. As soon as a nasty note surfaces on the bathroom wall, we're going to call it: Lamest hip-hop fight ever.

Courteney Cox and David Arquette. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Talk about a friendly divorce: No prenup for Cox, Arquette

In possibly the most amicable split in Hollywood history, Courteney Cox reportedly filed her divorce paper the same day as soon-to-be ex-husband David Arquette, also citing irreconcilable differences, according to TMZ.

Like Arquette, Cox is seeking joint custody of their daughter and no spousal support, and she will represent herself in the proceedings.

The biggest discovery is that the couple, married for 11 years before separating in 2010, did not have a prenup, so all of their community property will be divided equally.

Cox is worth a reported $75 million, while Arquette is said to be worth $18 million.

No doesn't mean no for Jake

Jake Gyllenhaal is nothing if not persistent. Though Minka Kelly reportedly turned him down flat when he asked her out last fall, the pair apparently did eventually go out a few times recently, according to Us Weekly.

"Minka wasn't into Jake when he first pursued her," a source says, explaining that the actress "decided to give Jake another chance" after her romance with Wilmer Valderrama fizzled out.

But it looks like things between Gyllenhaal and Kelly didn't last, either: "It was never serious, and it's over now," the source says.

Twitter

@Rihanna
Nonsense! I'm not sick! I pushed my trip to London back to go spend time with my family! Sorry kiddos

@joelmchale
During my flight back the 12 yr old girl sitting in front of me watched the original "The Thing" from 1951. I'm in awe of her cool.

@DAVID_LYNCH
Dear Twitter Friends, in your opinion, is America a good country or a bad country? Is America changing for the better or the worse?

@ElizabethBanks
Is everybody as bummed as me that John Malkovich's best friend seems to be Siri?

Liquid Assets

Give pops something strong — just like him

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
peterrockwell@eastlink.cca

My dad isn't much of a drinker. He's more of a six-pack of beer a year and a sip of wine if the occasion insists type than a trained professional like me.

He does have a slight liquid Achilles' heel when it comes to single malt scotch though, which makes Father's Day gifting a no brainer.

Not a blend of different whiskies, single malts are made from a single grain (barley) and a single water source by a single distillery. All that singularity means a glass of this style of scotch comes jam packed with personality, some of which can be pretty over the top.

Islay is Scotland's southernmost island and its small group of distilleries creates the most aggressive whiskies in the world.

Laphroaig 10 Year Old ($70.20 - $84.99) is arguably the nastiest (in a good way). Boozy and medicinal with a pounding palate of peat, iodine and a touch of sea spray; it's a rambunctious malt that may pose a challenge for those who prefer lighter whiskies.

Here's a tip: Try adding a splash of spring water to your next glass of single malt. It helps round out the forward flavours and accentuates the aromas.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

Surprise dad with your skills on the grill

Mesquite-Grilled Cheeseburgers with Warm Chipotle Salsa.

These aren't your typical barbecue bites

The basic two-zone fire is an efficient charcoal arrangement for a wide variety of foods. It combines both direct heat (where the food cooks directly above the coals) and indirect heat (where the foods cook above and to the side of the coals).

1. In a large bowl, gently combine beef, cumin, pepper and 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) salt. Shape into 4 patties of equal size, each about 2 cm (3/4 inch) thick. With your thumb or the back of a spoon, make a shallow indentation about 2.5 cm (1 inch) wide in the centre of each patty. This will help the patties cook evenly and prevent them from puffing on the grill. Cover and refrigerate until ready to cook.

2. Prepare a two-zone fire for high heat (230 C/450 F to 290 C/550 F).

3. In a medium skillet over medium heat, warm 15 ml (1 tbsp) of the oil. Add onion and garlic and cook until onion is tender, about 3 minutes, stirring occasionally. Transfer to a medium bowl. Brush tomatoes with remaining 30 ml (1 tbsp) of oil.

4. Brush cooking grate clean. Drain and add half of the wood chips to the charcoal and put the lid on the grill. When smoke appears, place tomato halves, cut side up, over indirect high heat. Close lid and cook until tomato juices are bubbling and the skins split, about 12 minutes. Remove from grill. Remove and discard tomato skins and roughly chop tomatoes. Add tomatoes, cilantro, chili and lime juice to onion mixture. Season with salt. Set aside.

5. Drain and add remaining wood chips to charcoal and put lid on the grill. When wood starts to smoke, cook patties over direct high heat, with lid closed as much as possible, until cooked to medium doneness, 8 to 10 minutes, turning once. During the last minute of cooking time, place a slice of cheese on each patty to melt and toast the rolls, cut side down. Remove from grill and build each burger with the salsa. Serve warm.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ 2012 WEBER-STEPHEN PRODUCTS LLC. RECIPE FROM WEBER'S SMOKE: A GUIDE TO SMOKE COOKING FOR EVERYONE AND ANY GRILL BY JAMIE PURVIANCE (OXMOOR HOUSE, 2012).

Ingredients

4 portions
Ideal grill: Charcoal
Smoke intensity: Strong
Prep time: 20 minutes
Cooking time: 20 minutes

- 750 g (1 1/2 lb) ground chuck (80 per cent lean)
- 10 ml (2 tsp) ground cumin
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) ground black pepper
- Kosher salt
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 1 small red onion, finely chopped
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 4 plum tomatoes, each cut in half lengthwise
- 2 large handfuls mesquite wood chips, soaked in water for at least 30 minutes
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) finely chopped fresh cilantro leaves
- 1 canned chipotle chili pepper in adobo sauce, minced
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) fresh lime juice
- 4 slices smoked cheddar or smoked Gouda cheese, each about 30 g (1 oz)
- 4 hamburger rolls

This recipe makes four burgers. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

Lay this Honey Pilsner Glaze on thick

The glaze is great for chicken. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

This Honey Pilsner Glaze can be used as a marinade, glaze or condiment.

It was created by Steve Adams, who has led his competition barbecue team, Team Cedar Grilling, to victory for three consecutive years.

The team represented Canada at the Jack Daniels' World Championships in Lynchburg, Tenn.

Here are some serving suggestions for the glaze.

- Use it to coat a roast ham in the last hour of cooking. You can add pineapple or raisins to the glaze for this use, if desired.
- Use it as a condiment on grilled sausage, hamburgers, hot dogs or sandwiches.
- Place the glaze in a non-reactive bowl, keeping some aside in a separate bowl for serving. Marinate chicken pieces or wings for one to two hours in the refrigerator. Grill over indirect heat until cooked. Serve glaze on the side

1. In a saucepan, combine all ingredients and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 2 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and set aside.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ STEVE ADAMS, TEAM CEDAR GRILLING, FOR STEAM WHISTLE PILSNER.

Ingredients

- 50 ml (1/4 cup) pilsner
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) honey
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) brown sugar
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) yellow mustard
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) garlic powder
- Freshly ground pepper

3 LIFE

Safety first

Cooking to perfection

- Use an instant-read thermometer to check if meat is finished rather than cutting into it because the natural juices will escape.
- Cook food thoroughly — cooking times and temperatures vary for different meat and poultry.
- Whole poultry should be fully cooked at 82 C (180 F), burgers at a minimum of 71 C (160 F) and beef, veal and lamb roasts and steaks can vary from 63 C (145 F) for medium-rare to 77 C (170 F) for well done.
- When cooking in advance, divide large portions of food into small, shallow containers for refrigeration to ensure safe, rapid cooling.
- Keep cold food cold and hot food hot until it's served. You can keep cooked meats hot by setting them to the side or upper tray of the barbecue grill.
- The refrigerator should be set at 4 C (40 F) or colder and the freezer at -18 C (0 F) or colder.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ ONTARIO.CA/SAFEFOODFACTS

On the web

Clean, cook, separate and chill to keep family, friends safe during grilling season

4 SPORTS

Soccer

"All sports fall into a rhythm, and at the moment our team is in a good rhythm with balance and in team spirit."

Canadian men's soccer team head coach Stephen Hart on Thursday. Canada is riding the momentum of taking four of six possible points in two World Cup qualifiers. The victories, a spirited 1-0 win in Cuba and 0-0 home draw against Honduras, has placed Canada second in CONCACAF Group C, trailing Panama, which has collected six points in two matches. Now Canada sits idle before resuming the quest for a Brazil 2014 berth with a match in Toronto against Panama on Sept. 7.

NHL

Gelinas returns to Calgary

Former Calgary Flames forward Martin Gelinas is back with the team as an assistant coach. Gelinas will join new head coach Bob Hartley, assistant coach Jacques Cloutier and goaltending coach Clint Malarchuk for the 2012-13 season. Gelinas played 20 seasons in the NHL for the Edmonton Oilers, Quebec Nordiques, Vancouver Canucks, Carolina Hurricanes, Florida Panthers, Nashville Predators and Flames. He won a Stanley Cup with the Oilers in 1990.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the web

Joe Torre will call the shots from the dugout once again. The 71-year-old, who led the New York Yankees to four championships, will manage the United States at the next World Baseball Classic. Scan the code for the story.

Chris Bosh dunks the ball over Serge Ibaka in Game 2 of the NBA finals Thursday in Oklahoma City. RONALD MARTINEZ/GETTY IMAGES

Heat steal Thunder's home-court advantage

NBA. Miami can win finals over next three games on its floor

Game 2

Heat	Thunder
100	96

LeBron James asked for help, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh provided it.

The Miami Heat finally rediscovered the formula to winning in the NBA finals — barely.

James scored 32 points, Wade rebounded from a poor opener with 24 and the Heat built a huge early lead before holding off a furious fourth-quarter rally behind their three all-stars to beat the Oklahoma City Thunder 100-96 on Thursday night to tie the series at one game apiece.

Bosh had 16 points and 15 rebounds in his return to the starting lineup for the Heat, who snapped a four-game finals losing streak with their first victory since Game 3 against Dallas last year.

"We've been down. We've withstood rallies. The good thing about it, when they scored, we didn't get our head down. We just got back on offence and started to execute," James said. "It's a great team that we're going against. So we're going to need every effort, every play and it's going to take all the way down to zeroes on that clock to get a win."

Now they go home to host Game 3 on Sunday and the next two after that, knowing they don't have to hear the noisy Thunder fans again — not to mention all their critics — if they win all three.

Kevin Durant scored 32 points for the Thunder, but missed a shot after appearing to be bumped that would have tied a game the Thunder trailed the entire way. Russell Westbrook finished with 27 points, eight rebounds and seven assists, but shot 10 of 25 from the field.

It was the first home loss in 10 post-season games for the Thunder, who had overcome a 13-point deficit in Game 1.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Golf

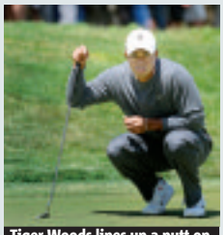
Tiger on the hunt at U.S. Open

Any comfort Michael Thompson took looking up at the leaderboard at the Olympic Club and finally seeing his name at the top fizzled fast when he saw the player one spot below.

Tiger Woods.

Thompson shot a 4-under 66 in the first round of the U.S. Open on Thursday, taking a three-shot lead in the clubhouse over the hard-charging Woods and David Toms.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Tiger Woods lines up a putt on Thursday. GETTY IMAGES

Cycling

Armstrong takes action against latest allegations

Lance Armstrong is gearing up for a fight over the latest round of doping allegations.

Armstrong's lawyers demanded access to evidence gathered by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, including test results and the names of witnesses who said they saw the seven-time Tour de France champion use performance-enhancing drugs.

Armstrong has until June 22 to respond in writing to the fresh allegations, the first step of what could be a months-long process.

"I'm exploring all my options," Armstrong said in a telephone interview on Thursday with The Associated Press from Paris.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kings take over streets of Los Angeles

Kings captain Dustin Brown raises the Stanley Cup during Thursday's parade in Los Angeles. JAE C. HONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dustin Brown stood on a flatbed truck and raised the big silver trophy above his head once again. The air in downtown Los Angeles filled with a blizzard of silver-and-black confetti.

The Los Angeles Kings are Stanley Cup champions for the first time, and a celebration 45 years in the making certainly appeared to be worth the wait.

The Kings rode double-decker buses and flatbed trucks in a parade through the city centre, moving slowly up Figueroa Street past thousands of roaring fans. Brown and playoff MVP Jonathan Quick then raised the cup outside Staples Center, where the Kings completed their 16-4 rampage through the post-season on Monday night by eliminating the New Jersey Devils.

Quoted

"Just to see the looks on their faces after they won, it is something I'll remember for the rest of my life."

Kings head coach Darryl Sutter

"It was more than you could ever expect," forward Dustin Penner said. "It's one of those moments you want to live over and over again. It's amazing to hear all the support, and to put faces to the cheers we've heard all year."

Anze Kopitar added: "It's too much fun not to win it again, so let's go get it."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Irish find no luck against Spaniards

Euro 2012. Ireland eliminated from tournament

Group C

Spain	Ireland
4	0

Spain's dazzling ball control, dizzying passing game and deluge of shots were way too much for Ireland.

Fernando Torres scored a goal in each half, and David Silva and substitute Cesc Fabregas added the others as Spain beat Ireland 4-0 and eliminated the Irish from the European Championship with its most lopsided loss in 41 years.

Spain, which leads Group C along with Croatia with four points, dominated the tempo and scoring opportunities through its quick combinations and precise passing. The defending champions completed an incredible 779 passes and took 26 shots — 20 of them on goal — in a performance that put it on course for a spot in the quarter-finals.

Torres, who scored in the Euro 2008 final, put Spain ahead early after dispossessing Richard Dunne inside the area and scurrying past Stephen Ward before sending an angled shot over goalkeeper Shay Given in the fourth minute.

Torres started over Fabregas as the world champions reverted to fielding a traditional striker after the attack was led by six midfielders against Italy. The Chelsea striker showed that a late-season turnaround was no fluke as he became Spain's third all-time-leading scorer with 30 goals in 95 appearances.

"We wanted to win, to make a better impression than we did against Italy," said Torres, whose team completed three times as many passes as the Irish. "From the first minute we showed the character to win."

Torres' first goal marked the start of Spain's assault on the Irish, who had started well with Simon Cox forcing Spain goalkeeper Iker Casillas into a tricky save in the second minute.

"Unfortunately the goal for the second time after three minutes throws your tactical plan out the window," said Ireland coach Giovanni Trapattoni, whose team also conceded early in a 3-1 loss to Croatia. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"For the vast majority of time, we were chasing shadows."

Ireland midfielder Keith Andrews after playing Spain.

Fernando Torres moves past Ireland's Richard Dunne, left, and Sean St. Ledger to score Thursday in Gdansk, Poland. ALVARO BARRIENTOS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Post-match reaction

Given considers future

Ireland goalkeeper Shay Given says his team's early exit from the European Championship following a 4-0 thrashing by Spain could prompt some players to consider retiring from international duty.

Given, 36, says he will think about his own future after Ireland was outclassed Thursday by the defending champions at the PGE Arena. Other key performers like Damien Duff, Richard Dunne and Robbie Keane are also over 30.

Given says his emotions are "very raw" after the team's elimination and thinks there will be "a few players" who might make way for younger players coming through.

Coach Giovanni Trapattoni says he might give the likes of 23-year-old winger James McClean a chance in the final Group C match against Italy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shay Given Thursday in Gdansk, Poland. GETTY IMAGES

Euro moments

1 France. Feeling hot

French coach Laurent Blanc has moaned about the sweltering playing conditions for the matches in Ukraine, where his team is based, saying "I just went to the stadium and it's like an oven." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2 Netherlands. Dutch dud

The Dutch are at the bottom of Group B with no points after two matches, and reaching for the calculator to determine how they can stay alive in the tournament. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3 Fights. Trials for supporters

Warsaw police say eight people have been convicted in summary procedures and 125 will go before courts following street fights involving Russian and Polish hooligans when their teams played a Euro 2012 match. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Italians let lead and victory slip away

Italy's Mario Balotelli kicks the ball during a Euro 2012 Group C match against Croatia in Poznan, Poland, Thursday. JON SUPER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

After all the talk about an attacking approach to football, Italy fell back to its old defensive tactics Thursday — and the price was a costly 1-1 draw with Croatia.

The Italians let a first-half lead slip away and now may need help to advance to the European Championship quarter-finals.

Andrea Pirlo gave the Italians the lead with a curving free kick in the 39th minute, but Mario Mandzukic was left unmarked to equalize for Croatia in the 72nd.

Quoted

"I'm happy for the goal but it's a shame for the team performance."

Italy's Andrea Pirlo

At the start of the second half, Italy rarely threatened, instead choosing to absorb Croatia's attacks. The tactic backfired when Ivan Strinic launched a long pass from the left flank to Mandzukic, who had time to control and shoot it in off the post.

Italy coach Cesare Prandelli was left wondering if there was a physical problem with his squad.

"After an hour our physical level drops," Prandelli said. "We've got to figure out how to manage our energy in the next match. We're lacking freshness in that phase of the match." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Croatia's rising star

A relative unknown at international level and close to being disowned by his club, Croatia striker Mario Mandzukic is becoming a star

- His three goals in two matches, as well as his tireless endeavour, have given Croatia a real chance of qualifying for the quarter-finals.
- Before the tournament, Mandzukic's German club VfL Wolfsburg was making noises of getting rid of him at the right price.

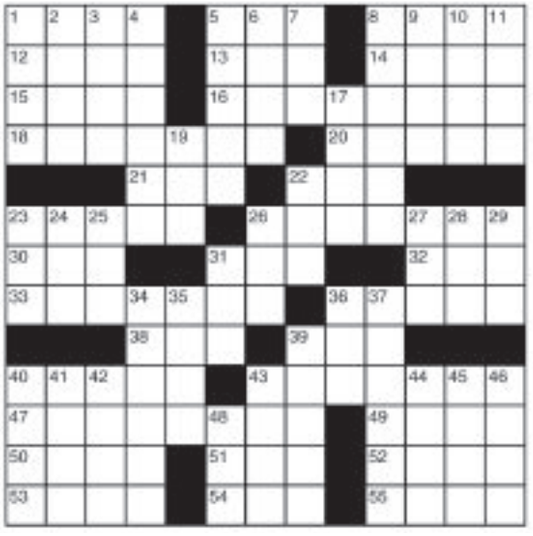
Crossword

Across

1 Cain's victim
5 Regis and Kelly's network
8 San —, CA
12 Foundation
13 Drench
14 — and crafts
15 Greek vowels
16 "OK" gesture
18 To this point
20 Black wood
21 "— the ramparts ..."
22 Dollar bill
23 Pickling solution
26 "Pulp Fiction" actress
30 Fond du —, Wisc.
31 Scenery chewer
32 "Little Women" woman
33 Bambi's rabbit friend
36 Type of poem
38 Sweet potato
39 Additionally
40 Wound souvenirs
43 Lightning accompaniment
47 Thanksgiving, e.g.
49 Race-driver Earnhardt
50 Hippocratic —
51 Branch
52 Historic times
53 Experts
54 Buck's mate
55 Landlord's due

Down

1 Help with a crime
2 Shower alternative
3 Birthright barterer
4 Textbook segment
5 "When You Wish Upon —"
6 Physicist Niels
7 PC processor
8 Talk on and on
9 Approximately
10 Dazzle
11 Catch sight of
17 Waiter's handout
19 Retainer
22 Resistance measure
23 Sandwich order, for short
24 Cheery remark?
25 Hosp. section
26 Pitch
27 Scratch
28 Parisian's pal
29 Big Apple abbr.
31 Height of fashion?
34 Aromatic resins
35 Get a good grade
36 Reed or Rawls
37 There
39 Rosemary's partner
40 Halt
41 Burn somewhat
42 Car
43 Poi source
44 Challenge
45 Verve
46 Whatever's left over
48 Old man



Sudoku

6								8
			1					6
3	1	7		6		2		
8			7		4		9	
	2						6	
	4		6		9			1
		3		8		7	5	9
5					3			
9								3

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

4	9	6	1	2	5	3	7	8
7	1	5	3	8	6	4	2	9
3	8	2	9	4	7	5	6	1
2	7	8	6	5	3	1	9	4
6	5	3	4	9	1	2	8	7
9	4	1	2	7	8	6	3	5
8	3	7	5	6	4	9	1	2
5	6	9	7	1	2	8	4	3
1	2	4	8	3	9	7	5	6

Yesterday's Crossword

Cryptoquip

How to play
This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

NWCQ ETI MT QTK NFQ D NCFXWK-UTVV ZTQKCVK, ZTIUM ETI VDE ETI NCAC GCDKCQ GE D VUFL LDAXFQ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF EMPLOYEES PAUSE TO TAKE SOME REFRESHING SIPS OF SODA, MIGHT THEY BE DRINKING BREAK FLUID?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals Y

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Today 18°/10° Thunderstorms 80%
Saturday 21°/13° Sunny
Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.
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Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. No doubt you have big plans and no doubt you are going places but keep a sense of perspective.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. You won't lack confidence today but will you match it with common sense? If you don't, you could find that something you expected to go right goes wrong at the last minute.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. You will be inspired to try something new today. Whether your sense of adventure is a good thing remains to be seen.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. What you need today is a fresh way of looking at the world around you, and the only way to get that is to ask people for their opinions. Will your ego allow it? It should.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. You are sure to have a brilliant idea today but you would be wise to get a second opinion before you put it into effect.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. There is no limit to what you can achieve now but there is a danger that you will take too much for granted and make a silly mistake.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. A lot of things don't seem to make much sense at the moment but does it matter? Life is and always will be a mystery. That's what makes it interesting.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. You may have something worthwhile to say but that does not mean everyone you interact with is going to believe you, or even want to hear your message.

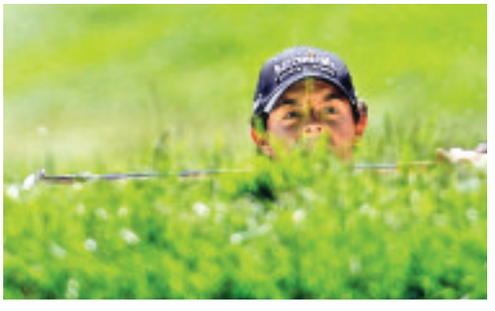
Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. You may not be thinking clearly at the moment. So, if there are decisions to be made wait until the Sun changes signs on the 20th.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. You know what you want and your confidence is such that the thought of failure has not crossed your mind. That's good. Keep believing.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. Do you keep your plans to yourself or do you let everyone know about them? If you are smart, you won't give too much away.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. Some of the ideas you come up with today and over the weekend will be remarkable even by your superior standards.

SALLY BROMPTON

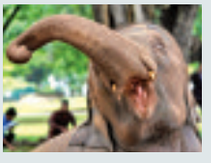


Caption Contest

"Now this is a divot!"
Jeff

ERIC GAY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Win!



You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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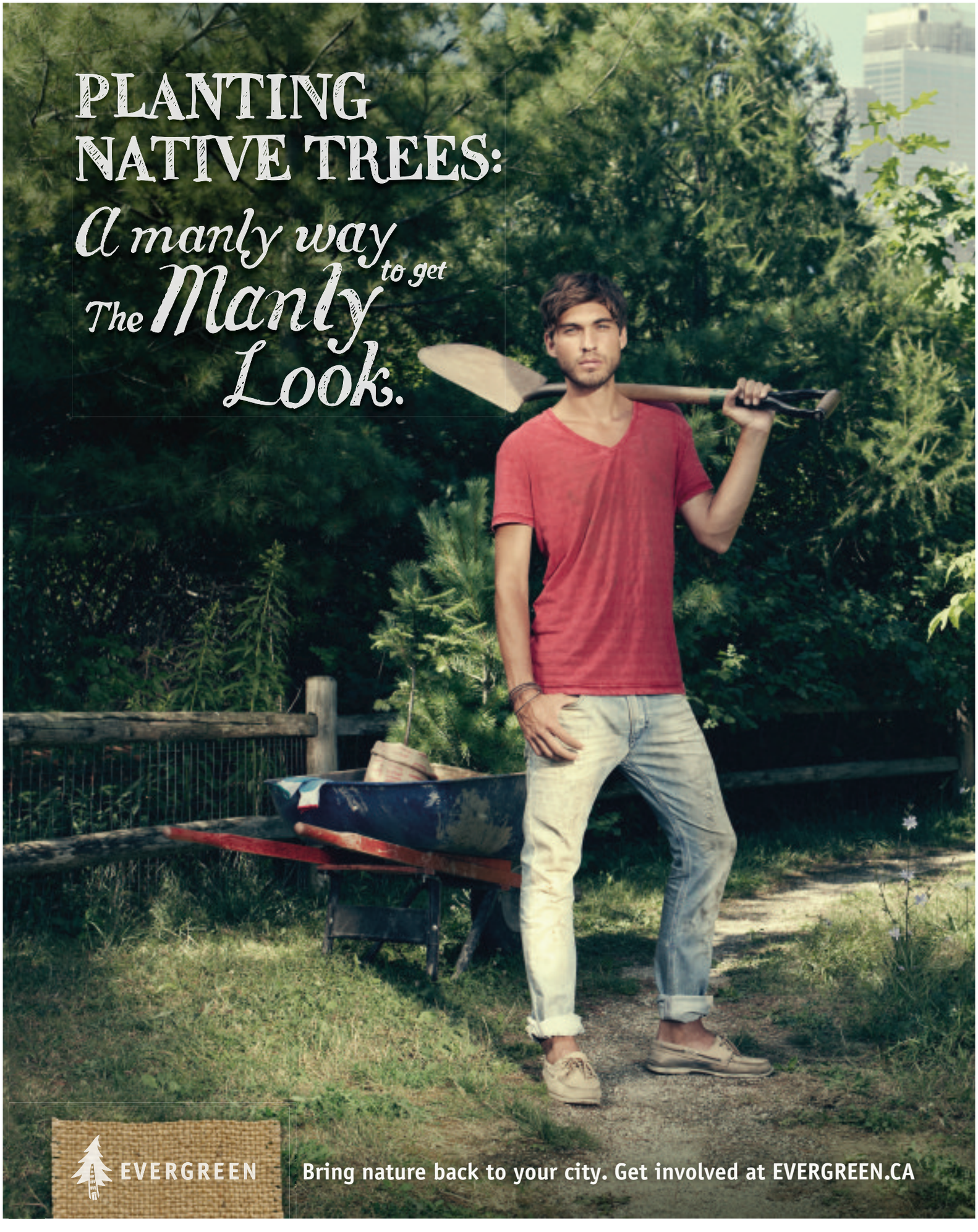
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